

Public Law 101-85
101st Congress

Joint Resolution

Aug. 14, 1989

[S.J. Res. 67]

To commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964 which established the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Whereas 1989 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the National Wilderness Preservation System;
Whereas wilderness areas were created to secure for the American people the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness;
Whereas Congressionally designated wilderness is an area of undeveloped Federal land where earth and nature are untrammelled by man, and where man is a visitor who does not remain;
Whereas wilderness areas allow us to preserve ecological, geological, scientific, educational, scenic, and historical values;
Whereas wilderness areas provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation;
Whereas in 1924 the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico was the first administratively designated wilderness in the nation, and became statutory wilderness in 1964;
Whereas there are four hundred and seventy-four units totaling nearly ninety-one million acres in forty-four States that comprise the National Wilderness Preservation System today;
Whereas a wide range of individuals, organizations, and agencies with differing perspectives have worked with Congress to promote preservation of wilderness areas;
Whereas the Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management are entrusted to protect and manage our wilderness heritage;
Whereas the Wilderness Act passed in both houses of Congress with a strong sense of bipartisan support; and
Whereas the Wilderness Act was signed into law on September 3, 1964 by President Lyndon Baines Johnson: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the week of September 3 through September 9, 1989, is designated as "National Wilderness Week". The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate activities and programs.

Approved August 14, 1989.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 67:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 135 (1989):

June 9, considered and passed Senate.

Aug. 4, considered and passed House.